

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-22 have been rejected. Claims 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112. Claim 3 has been amended to address this rejection.

Claims 1, 10, and 18 stand rejected under Bohannon, U.S. Patent No. 6,134,324 (Bohannon). Claims 20, and 22 stand rejected under Bohannon in view of Patterson, U.S. Patent No. 6,389,541 (Patterson). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 1, relates to a method of selectively installing software onto a computer system, said method includes reading a configuration file that contains computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information, determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes from the configuration file, including the manufacturer specific information, and deciphering data stored on a nonvolatile storage device using the key.

The present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 10, relates to a computer system for selectively installing software. The computer system includes a processor, nonvolatile memory operatively coupled to the processor, a nonvolatile storage device, one or more configuration files, a computer program executable by the processor. The computer program is capable of reading a configuration file stored in the nonvolatile memory and determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes read from the configuration file. The encrypted key is capable of deciphering data stored on the nonvolatile storage device. The one or more configuration files contain computer system information. The computer system information includes manufacturer specific identification information.

The present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 18, relates to a method of selectively installing software. The method includes reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration

file including manufacturer specific information, and storing the key in a registry file. The computer system information includes the manufacturer specific identification information.

The present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 20, relates to a computer readable medium for selectively installing software onto a computer system. The computer readable medium includes means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including manufacturer specific information, and means for storing the key in a registry. The computer system information includes the manufacturer specific identification information.

The present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 22, relates to a computer system for selectively installing software. The computer system includes means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including manufacturer specific information, and means for storing the key in a registry. The computer system information includes the manufacturer specific identification information.

Bohannon discloses a technique for mass distributing software products, especially integrated circuit design tools and design libraries, while allowing only a selected portion of the software products to be loaded onto and used on a computer. With the technique each portion of a software product is encrypted with a key code. A configuration file which is uniquely configured for each customer contains a list of selected portions of the software products and key codes for decrypting only the selected portions of the software products.

Patterson discloses a method for regulating access to digital content such as text video and music. The content is stored as part of a compressed and encrypted data file at a client computer. The content is inaccessible to the user until a use authorization occurs. The data file is activated and locked to the particular client computer. The data file is not accessible without new authorization if the data file is transferred to another computer.

Bohannon and Patterson, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of selectively installing software onto a computer system which includes reading a configuration

file that contains computer system information which includes manufacturer specific identification information, determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes from the configuration file, and deciphering data stored on a nonvolatile storage device using the key, all as required by independent claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Bohannon and Patterson. Claims 2 – 9 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason.

Bohannon and Patterson, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a computer system for selectively installing software which includes a computer program executable by the processor which is capable of reading a configuration file stored in the nonvolatile memory, the configuration file including computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information, and determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes read from the configuration file, all as required by claim 10. Accordingly, claim 10 is allowable over Bohannon and Patterson. Claims 11 – 17 depend from claim 10 and are allowable for at least this reason.

Bohannon and Patterson, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method of selectively installing software which includes reading a configuration file that contains computer system information which includes manufacturer specific identification information, determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific information, and storing the key in a registry file, all as required by claim 18. Accordingly, claim 18 is allowable over Bohannon and Patterson. Claim 19 depends from claim 18 and is allowable for at least this reason.

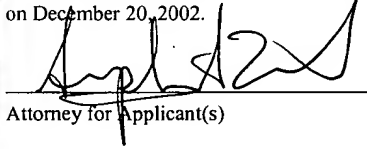
Bohannon and Patterson, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a computer readable medium for selectively installing software onto a computer system which includes means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information which includes manufacturer specific identification information, means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific information, and means for storing the key in a registry, all as required by claim 20. Accordingly, claim 20 is allowable over Bohannon and Patterson. Claims 21 depends from claim 20 and is allowable for at least this reason.

Bohannon and Patterson, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a computer system for selectively installing software which includes means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information which includes manufacturer specific identification information, means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific information, and means for storing the key in a registry, all as required by claim 22. Accordingly, claim 22 is allowable over Bohannon and Patterson.

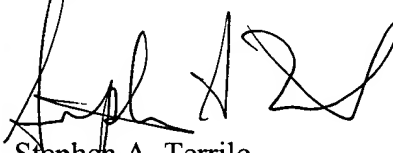
CONCLUSION

The claims have been amended to improve clarity. In addition the Figure margins have been corrected and formal drawings have been submitted in a separate response sent to the Official Draftsman. The rejection of the claims has been traversed and addressed through the amendments to the claims. No new claims have been added.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 20, 2002.	
	12/20/02
Attorney for Applicant(s)	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX A

The following is a "Marked Up" version of the entire set of claims showing the changes that the accompanying submission makes to the claims of Serial No. 09/271,581:

1. (Amended) A method of selectively installing software onto a computer system, said method comprising:
reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information;
determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes from the configuration file
including the manufacturer specific identification information;
deciphering data stored on a nonvolatile storage device using the key.
2. (Amended) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS[/DOS] memory file.
3. (Amended) The method, as recited in claim [1]2, wherein the BIOS[/DOS] memory file is stored in nonvolatile memory connected to the computer system.
4. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
storing the key in a registry file.
5. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
copying the deciphered data onto another nonvolatile storage device connected to the computer system.
6. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
checking the authenticity of the key.
7. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the reading and the determining are performed by a software program stored in a dynamic linked library.

8. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the nonvolatile storage device includes:

- a CD-ROM device; and
- a CD-ROM.

9. (As Filed) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the nonvolatile storage device stores the data on a Web Page that is accessible on a global computer network.

10. (Amended) A computer system for selectively installing software, said computer system comprising:

- a processor;
- nonvolatile memory operatively coupled to the processor;
- a nonvolatile storage device;
- one or more configuration files, the one or more configuration files containing computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information;
- a computer program executable by the processor, wherein the computer program is capable of reading a configuration file stored in the nonvolatile memory, determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes read from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific identification information;
- wherein the encrypted key is capable of deciphering data stored on the nonvolatile storage device.

11. (Amended) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS[/DOS] memory file.

12. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:
a second nonvolatile storage device; and
a registry file stored on the second nonvolatile storage device;
wherein the encrypted key is stored in the registry.

13. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

a second nonvolatile storage device that stores the deciphered data.

14. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the computer software is further capable of checking the authenticity of the encrypted key.

15. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the software program is located in a dynamic linked library.

16. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the nonvolatile storage device includes:

a CD-ROM device; and
a CD-ROM.

17. (As Filed) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the nonvolatile storage device stores the data on a Web Page that is accessible on a global computer network.

18. (Amended) A method of selectively installing software, said method comprising:
reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information;
determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including manufacturer specific information;
storing the key in a registry file.

19. (Amended) The computer readable medium, as recited in claim 18, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS[/DOS] memory file.

20. (Amended) A computer readable medium for selectively installing software onto a computer system, the computer readable medium comprising:
means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information;

means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific identification information;

means for storing the key in a registry.

21. (Amended) The computer readable medium, as recited in claim 20, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS[/DOS] memory file.

22. (As Filed) A computer system for selectively installing software, the computer system comprising:

means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information;

means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific identification information;

means for storing the key in a registry.